

Flier Explains 'Destruct' Device And Poison Needle

By John G. Norris
Staff Reporter

Francis Gary Powers told a public Senate hearing yesterday how his U-2 plane was brought down from the skies high over Russia 22 months ago by a mysterious, orange-colored explosion.

In calm, self-possessed tones, the Central Intelligence Agency pilot described his ill-fated flight and subsequent interrogation, trial and imprisonment

Partial text of Francis Gary Powers' testimony at Senate hearing. Page A10.

Summary of results of CIA interrogation of Powers. Page A11.

Restrained questioning of U-2 pilot Powers leaves many puzzles of flight unanswered. Page A12.

as a spy before a packed session of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Earlier, a CIA report was issued saying he lived up to his obligations, and many Senators praised the way he had conducted himself throughout his ordeal.

There was a burst of applause from the spectators, when the Virginia-born former Air Force captain declared:

"There was one thing that I always remembered while I was there and that was that I was an American."

For 90 minutes, Powers told the story of his flight—the first time publicly since his release and return to this country nearly a month ago

—and then answered questions.

Powers cast little new light on what brought down his high-flying plane. He told of "feeling, hearing and just

sensing" an explosion, with "just a slight acceleration of the aircraft" felt in the plane itself.

"I immediately looked up from the instruments and

everywhere I looked was orange," he added.

Powers used a model of the U-2 to show how the plane went out of control and then into a spin.

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